



# COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

DAVID R. OBEY, CHAIRMAN

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## **OBEY SAYS ECONOMY NEEDS A BIGGER KICK TO CREATE NEW JOBS**

*"DEFICITS WILL NOT GO DOWN AS LONG AS THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IS RISING"*

WASHINGTON – Dave Obey (D-WI), the Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, today called for more government action to stimulate the economy and spur U.S. job creation:

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“It is clear from the latest employment news that we need to give the economy a bigger kick. While the Recovery Act is working, as I said when we passed it, it is not big enough by itself to do everything we need it to do to get workers back to work.”

“Health care and Afghanistan aside there are two major issues facing our country right now: the deficit and unemployment fueled by the recession. The deficit is important in the long term, but what should be our immediate priority is what is happening on the job front. Deficits are not causing the unemployment rate, but the unemployment rate is causing increases in the deficit, because employed workers add to the nation’s revenue while the unemployed do the reverse by increasing demand for unemployment insurance, Medicaid, food stamps, and the like. So the longer it takes the unemployed to get a job, the longer it will take us to get our deficit down.

“The bottom line is that additional action is required to help families and small businesses who are struggling to make ends meet in these tough economic times. An effective short term boost would mean a stronger economy, less unemployment and ultimately lower deficits.”

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